

NOAA, NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE, WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE

Miami, Florida 33165

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Season's Last Shot of Cool Air?

Cool morning temperatures over South Florida the last two mornings are a reminder that summer's persistent heat and humidity are still a few weeks away. Temperatures both this morning and yesterday morning dropped into the 40s over interior sections of South Florida to the 50s over the southeast and southwest Florida metro areas. Only immediate coastal locations along the southeast coast and Miami International Airport failed to drop below 60 degrees.

How unusual are these temperatures in late April? From a record perspective, it certainly is! West Palm Beach set a daily record low of 53 degrees yesterday morning, breaking the old record of 55 set back in 1998. West Palm Beach also tied their record "low maximum" yesterday with an afternoon high of only 75 degrees. Naples also established a record low maximum temperature when they only reached 74 degrees yesterday afternoon.

Relative to the normal temperatures this time of year, the temperatures of the past two days have run about 8 to 12 degrees below normal. For mid-winter, these departures from normal wouldn't be that unusual, but for late April when temperature variability is lower, it is more significant.

Another way of looking at this is by considering the average latest dates of temperatures below a defined value for several South Florida cities

City	Average Latest Date of Temp Below 60F	Lowest temps Apr 24 & 25, 2012
Miami	April 17	60F
Miami Beach	April 3	59F
Fort Lauderdale	April 19	57F
West Palm Beach	April 24 (April 8 for less than 55 degrees)	53F
Naples	April 26 (April 8 for less than 55 degrees)	53F
LaBelle	May 20 (April 14 for below 50)	45F
Moore Haven	May 11 (April 24 for less than 55)	54F

The average latest dates of readings in the 40s and 50s in the spring are in early to mid-April, which means that the cool temperatures of the past two mornings occurred quite a bit later than what is normally observed so late in the season.